

REMARKS

This Amendment, submitted in response to the non-final Office Action dated October 21, 2008, is believed to be fully responsive to the points of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, entry of the Amendment and favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-10, 12, 13, 15-17, and 23-26 are pending. Claims 11 and 14 are cancelled. Claims 18-22 are withdrawn in response to a restriction requirement. Claims 1, 15, 24, and 26 are amended above. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-10, 12, 13, 16, 17, and 23-25 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over EP 0526057 (Schilling), in view of US 5,934,609 (Kuklinski). The Examiner indicated that Claims 14, 15 and 26 contain allowable subject matter. Applicants respectfully submit the following remarks in support of the patentability of the claims.

Claim 1 is amended above to include the additional recitations of Claim 14, now cancelled. The Examiner indicated that Claim 14 contained allowable subject matter. Accordingly, amended Claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Further, as all of the other pending claims depend directly or indirectly from Claim 1, these claims are also believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of Claims 1-10, 12, 13, 16, 17, and 23-25 under 35 USC 103(a) over Schilling, in view of Kuklinski, be withdrawn.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims, namely Claims 1-10, 12, 13, 15-17, and 23-26 are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is needed to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

/Penny A. Clarke/
Penny A. Clarke
Reg. No. 46,627

General Electric Company
Building K1, Room 3A72
Niskayuna, New York 12309
December 24, 2008
Telephone: (518) 387-5349